



4 May 2025  
Third Sunday of Easter  
Year C

To Know, love and serve Jesus  
by sharing our gifts through our baptismal mission

193 St Andrews Rd  
Varroville NSW 2566  
W: varroville.dow.org.au  
E: varroville@dow.org.au  
T: 96037373 / 0434705176



## JUBILEE OF WORKERS

The Jubilee of Workers celebrates the vital contribution to society made by all workers: professional and trades, paid employees and volunteers; while also recognising the model of all workers, St Joseph.

In modern times, the dignity of workers has been a constant concern for the Church. Pope Leo XIII's encyclical, *Rerum Novarum*, issued in 1891, began a long tradition of the Church showing its care and concern for workers in a constantly changing landscape. In *Rerum Novarum*, Pope Leo XIII set out to identify the concerns of working people in an increasingly industrialised world. He sought to define what was needed to ensure that workers conditions and wages ensured their dignity. As circumstances have changed, Leo XIII's successors have sought to give voice to the Church's continuing concern for workers to ensure that they are treated justly.

More recently, Pope Francis speaks of the need to protect employment in his encyclical, *Laudato Si'* (2015; 124-129):

"127. Work should be the setting for this rich personal growth, where many aspects of life enter into play: creativity, planning for the future, developing our talents, living out our values, relating to others, giving glory to God. It follows that, in the reality of today's global society, it is essential that "we continue to prioritize the goal of access to steady employment for everyone", no matter the limited interests of business and dubious economic reasoning.

"128. We were created with a vocation to work. The goal should not be that technological progress increasingly replace human work, for this would be detrimental to humanity. Work is a necessity, part of the meaning of life on this earth, a path to growth, human development and personal fulfilment. Helping the poor financially must always be a provisional solution in the face of pressing needs. The broader objective should always be to allow them a dignified life through work."

In Australia, the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference maintains this commitment locally through the work of the Australian Catholic Council for Employment Relations (ACCER). One of the most important contributions ACCER makes on behalf of the Bishops is to make a submission to the annual minimum wage case. Through ACCER, the Bishops seek to ensure that the most vulnerable workers are guaranteed an adequate income to enable them and their families to live a dignified life.

From 'The Dignity of Work and the Rights of Workers' (USCCB): "The economy must serve people, not the other way around. Work is more than a way to make a living; it is a form of continuing participation in God's creation. If the dignity of work is to be protected, then the basic rights of workers must be respected - the right to productive work, to decent and fair wages, to the organisation and joining of unions, to private property, and to economic initiative."

### Readings for this week

#### Entrance Antiphon

Cry out with joy to God, all the earth; O sing to the glory of his name. O render him glorious praise, alleluia.

**First Reading** from the Acts of Apostles 5:27-32. 40-41

#### Responsorial Psalm

Ps 29:2. 4-6. 11-13. R. v.2

(R.) I will praise you, Lord, for you have rescued me.

**Second Reading** from the book of the Apocalypse Revelations 5:11-14

#### Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!  
Christ is risen, the Lord of all creation; he has shown pity on all people. Alleluia!

**Holy Gospel** according to John 21:1-19

#### Communion Antiphon

The disciples recognized the Lord Jesus in the breaking of the bread, alleluia.



### Next Week

#### Fourth Sunday of Easter Year C

First: Acts 13:14, 43-52  
Resp Ps: Ps 99:1-3. 5. R. v.3  
Second: Rev 7:9, 14-17  
Gospel: John 10:27-30

## Mass and Devotions

### Sunday Mass

Saturday Vigil: 6pm

Sunday: 9.30am & 5pm

Samoan Mass: 1st Sunday of June at 12noon

Maori Mass: 1st Sunday of each month at 2pm

Filipino Mass: 3rd Sunday of each month at 11.15am

Children's Mass: 5th Sunday of the month at 9.30am

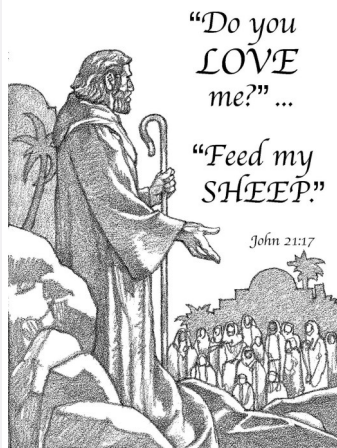
### Weekday Mass

- 9am each day except Thursday; It is at 7.30pm
- Healing Mass on the 1st Saturday of each month at 9am.

### Devotions & prayer groups

- Adoration with the Rosary:
- Saturday at 9.30am
- Alliance of the 2 hearts Mass & devotion: 1st Friday of each month at 7.30pm
- Divine Mercy Devotion: 3rd Sunday of each month at 3pm
- Reconciliation every Saturday at 11am.
- Faith Circles: every Monday at 2pm & 7pm via zoom
- Holy Family Fellowship: every 4th Saturday at 7pm.
- Book Club meets on the 3rd Wednesday at 10am.
- Friendship Group is on the 1st Tuesday of the Month
- Bible Reflection group meets every Monday at 10am.
- Children's Ministry Gathering will meet on the 4th Sunday from 3– 5 pm
- Ascent Youth Ministry meets on the 2nd & 4th Friday from 6.30p.

## Holy Gospel according to John 21:1-19



*Jesus stepped forward, took the bread and gave it to them, and did the same with the fish.*

Jesus showed himself again to the disciples. It was by the Sea of Tiberias, and it happened like this: Simon Peter, Thomas called the twin, Nathanael from Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee and two more of his disciples were together. Simon Peter said, 'I'm going fishing.' They replied, 'We'll come with you.' They went out and got into the boat but caught nothing that night.

It was light by now and there stood Jesus on the shore, though the disciples did not realise that it was Jesus. Jesus called out, 'Have you caught anything, friends?' And when they answered, 'No', he said, 'Throw the net out to starboard and you'll find something.' So they dropped the net, and there were so many fish that they could not haul it in. The disciple Jesus loved said to Peter, 'It is the Lord.' At these words 'It is the Lord', Simon Peter, who had practically nothing on, wrapped his cloak round him and jumped into the water. The other disciples came on in the boat, towing the net and the fish; they were only about a hundred yards from land.

As soon as they came ashore they saw that there was some bread there, and a charcoal fire with fish cooking on it. Jesus said, 'Bring some of the fish you have just caught.' Simon Peter went aboard and dragged the net to the shore, full of big fish, one hundred and fifty-three of them; and in spite of there being so many the net was not broken. Jesus said to them, 'Come and have breakfast.' None of the disciples was bold enough to ask, 'Who are you?'; they knew quite well it was the Lord. Jesus then stepped forward, took the bread and gave it to them, and the same with the fish. This was the third time that Jesus showed himself to the disciples after rising from the dead.

After the meal Jesus said to Simon Peter, 'Simon son of John, do you love me more than these others do?' He answered, 'Yes Lord, you know I love you.' Jesus said to him, 'Feed my lambs.' A second time he said to him, 'Simon son of John, do you love me?' He replied, 'Yes, Lord, you know I love you.' Jesus said to him, 'Look after my sheep.' Then he said to him a third time, 'Simon son of John, do you love me?' Peter was upset that he asked him the third time, 'Do you love me?' and said, 'Lord, you know everything; you know I love you.' Jesus said to him, 'Feed my sheep.

'I tell you most solemnly, when you were young you put on your own belt and walked where you liked; but when you grow old you will stretch out your hands, and somebody else will put a belt round you and take you where you would rather not go.'

In these words he indicated the kind of death by which Peter would give glory to God. After this he said, 'Follow me.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

## Parish Notices

**Friendship group** will meet on Tuesday 6th May at 10am at Carmelite Missionaries Convent. We will be celebrating Mother's Day. Please bring a plate. For further information please contact the Parish Office.

**Sacramental Preparation** will be commencing in May for children wishing to make First Holy Communion. Confirmation and Reconciliation preparation will be held later in the year. You can register at the parish office for all sacraments including Baptism and Marriage. Information booklet available, ask the welcomer as you leave.

**Mother's Day Movie Night** YOU are invited! Join ASCENT Youth Group for Mother's Day Movie Night on Saturday, 10th May at 7pm in the Parish Hall and enjoy a heartwarming screening of *Unsung Hero*, a TRUE STORY of a mother's unshakeable faith and her family's inspiring journey. All are welcome - bring the whole family! Tickets include: Entry, sausage sizzle, tea/coffee, snacks & sweets. Pre-book via the Parish Office: \$20 (adults), \$10 (children); At the door: \$25 (adults), \$15 (children)  
Raffle tickets & canned drinks available for purchase on the night with great prizes to be won! For more info: Caroline 0481 469 262 or Parish Office: (02) 9603 7373

**Our Lady of Mount Carmel Feast day and Fiesta celebration is on Sunday 13 July 2025;** Its time to form a committee to plan our annual Fiesta. This year, (hopefully) we will have an extra special celebration because our renovations will be complete. Please come along on Tuesday 6 May or 13 May at 7.30pm to get things started.

**Cross+Gen free technology training for seniors** We are very pleased to announce, that our Cross+Gen technology program has been recognised with a prestigious Award for Innovation and Contribution from the Australian Institute for Intergenerational Practice (AIIP) at their annual conference in February. Due to the popularity of the Cross+Gen technology program, CatholicCare, will again partner with St Benedict's Oran Park and CEDoW to assist with the technology issues that you may be struggling with. Bring your device, your phone, laptop or tablet and the students will assist you with becoming more confident in downloading apps, sending messages or even using google maps. The dates are as follows, and afternoon tea will be provided: ☑ Tuesday 13 & 27 May, 13 & 10 June from 1pm-2.30pm.

Please join us in this unique opportunity to connect with seniors and students for some information sharing in a fun, relaxed setting at St Benedict's Catholic College Oran Park. Please contact Jane Hollier Parish and Community Officer CatholicCare on 0417 018 152 or email [janeh@catholiccare.dow.org.au](mailto:janeh@catholiccare.dow.org.au)

**Rosters are due for renewal in June.** Please contact the parish office to make a commitment to one of our rosters and also if you need to update your contact information and availability for the next 6 months. There is a desperate need for more volunteers to clean the church each weekend. The 5pm Mass requires additional welcomers. Please consider if you can help out on the roster once every 4-6 weeks. Contact the parish office for more information.

## Prayer intentions



### **For the sick and homebound:**

Mary Ponnappalam, Myka Mangos, Kevin Cloran, Karen Browne, Reg Gardner, Sr Heather Burke, Marie and Barry Atkins, Carol and Gabriel Gonzales, Amelia Jimenez, Susan Mella, Sean Finnerty, Rose Levoune, Doris Wahhib, John Kajdryns, Pat Stewart, Allan Marquez.

*May they experience the saving power of the risen Lord amidst their pain and affliction.*

### **For our recently departed:**

Peter Presdee, Pope Francis, Reg Bucknell, Marites Vinoya

### **Those whose anniversaries occur at this time:**

Anthony Mangos, Hilda Young, Joe Spinnato,

*Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, may perpetual light shine upon them.*

## Our Rosters

11 May 2025	Saturday 6pm	Sunday 9.30am	Sunday 5pm
<b>Welcomers</b>	Estela & Cecilia	Martin, Violeti & Paul	Stuart, Judy & Jackie
<b>Altar Servers</b>	Andrew, Diane, Sebastian & Eliarna	Orly	Robert & Nathan
<b>Readers</b>	Bevina & Amana	Irene & Lee	Madonna & Tim
<b>Altar Linen</b>	Ann Maree	<b>CLOTW</b>	
<b>Counters</b>	Vilma, Jeanette & Irene	<b>Church Vacuuming</b>	Tess & Effie

**Get Connected with what is on around the Diocese** Every week, there are many great opportunities to be part of special events, courses, free resources and to nurture and encourage you and your family in your faith. Stay informed by subscribing at [dow.sh/stayingconnected](http://dow.sh/stayingconnected) or visit [dow.sh/weekly\\_bulletin](http://dow.sh/weekly_bulletin) to see a full list of notices sent to Parishes.

## GOSPEL REFLECTION BY MICHAEL TATE

### *You know I love you*

Some years ago, I noticed a couple with a newborn baby in the front pew. I *observed* the baby, but they could not take their eyes off the infant for the whole Mass. Their way of looking was completely different to mine. It was the *loving gaze* of total commitment and, no doubt, of the deepest desire for the best possible future for their baby.

According to St Luke's Gospel, Jesus bestowed that sort of loving gaze on Peter as he stood warming himself near a charcoal fire in the High Priests Courtyard, the place where he denied our Lord three times: 'I do not know the man'.

In today's Gospel, St Peter is standing near another charcoal fire on which the Risen Lord had prepared breakfast. Balancing his denials, Peter affirms three times: 'Lord, you know that I love you'. This was the dramatic effect of that loving gaze. You and I are constantly held in that gaze. You and I, like Peter, are thus enabled to repent of our betrayals of our Lord, some major, most minor, and to claim: 'Lord, you know that I love you'.

But, this claim has to be evidenced by concrete action. In the case of Peter, he was to feed and shepherd 'My lambs and my sheep'. How do we decide what concrete action will manifest our professed love? The short and sure answer, in the words of Father Richard Rohr, is *to love what God loves*.

And that, my friends, is nothing less than the whole cosmos: 'For God so loved the cosmos as to give the Son.' (Jn 3:16,17) We often translate it 'For God so loved the world'. But that is too weak. The Greek word is *cosmos*, the whole of created reality. Of course, we have to love our fellow human beings, but leaving it there would be an inadequate imitation of God's love for the cosmos. How can we concretely show that love?

In the Sermon on the Mount, our Lord says: 'You are the Salt of the Earth.' Salt is a preservative, preventing decay, making food suitable for eating. You must preserve the earth so that it does not decay and so that it is a suitable habitation for all the creatures, including us, for whom the earth is 'our common home' to use the subtitle of 'Laudato Si', the encyclical by Pope Francis on the environment.

And then our Lord went on; 'You are the Light of the Cosmos'. What can this mean?

Think of the most beautiful scene in nature which has ever moved or amazed you. Perhaps a majestic mountain, or a remarkable stretch of water, or the constellation of stars overarching the night sky. But neither the mountain nor the water nor the stars are themselves aware of their existence and able to praise God for that very fact. However, *you are the enlightened mind and the enflamed heart of the whole cosmos*. As you will hear in the Mass: 'With [the angels], we too confess your name in exultation, *giving voice to every creature under heaven* as we acclaim: "Holy Holy Holy Lord God of Hosts".'

We are the stardust with loving consciousness called to embody God's love for the cosmos. We become priests of the cosmos for the cosmos. St Francis of Assisi was a man in love with all created reality. We can hear him singing in the Canticle of the Sun:

Be praised, My Lord, through all your creatures,  
Especially through my lord Brother Sun,  
Who brings the day; And you give light through him.  
And he is beautiful and radiant in all his splendor!  
Of you, Most High, he bears the likeness.

We may not all be as ecstatic as St Francis, but in the words of the Pope who took his name: 'We, the women and men of the Church, we are in the middle of a love story and each of us is a link in this chain of love. And if we do not understand this, we have understood nothing of what the Church is.'

My dear friends, we are all held in the loving gaze of the One who first loved us (1 Jn 4:19). That is what enables us personally and as a Church, to respond: 'Lord, you know that I love you.' But then we must prove it as Salt of The Earth and Light of The Cosmos!



### Contact Us

Parish Priest:  
Fr. Shane Kelleher OCD

Parish Associate:  
Sr "Jill" Girlie Sudario, CM

### Office Hours

Tuesday-Friday: 9.30am-12.30pm  
Phone: 9603 7373 / 0434 705 176  
Address: 193 St Andrews Rd, Varroville  
Email: [varroville@dow.org.au](mailto:varroville@dow.org.au)  
Website: [varroville.dow.org.au](http://varroville.dow.org.au)

We acknowledge and respect the traditional owners and custodians of the land on which we stand, the elders, past and present and all the Dharawal people. May we too be good stewards of this land.